

## OUR LETTER BOX

(The Editor of THE LEDGER is not responsible for opinions expressed by Correspondents; but nothing reflecting upon the character of any person will be admitted to these columns.)

Correspondents will please send letters so as to reach us not later than 5 o'clock a.m. Give facts in as few words as possible. We want news in this department, and not advertising notices or political arguments.

## EPWORTH ETCHINGS.

A Correspondent Who Has Discovered Some News in an Entirely New Field.

Mrs. Lucy Earls has grip.

Ed Nash was in Maysville Friday.

L. H. Stevens is building a new house in our town.

Joe Rayborn and Ad Ross were in Maysville Saturday.

Elder White filled his regular appointment at Galilee Sunday.

Oscar Nash moved to Burtonville Friday. A lucky day, Oscar.

William Rayborn has been confined to the house with muscular rheumatism.

Willie Kirk of Cabin Creek has moved into the property he recently purchased here.

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Stevens is quite ill at present from croupous pneumonia.

There was quite an interesting spelling match last Friday night between our home school and Burtonville.

The Campground Board has had a road thirty feet wide built through the grounds, which is quite an improvement.

Messrs. H. L. Thompson and Robert Hinton spent Saturday and Sunday at Northcott Chapel on Kinney. They report an excellent meeting and several additions.

## GOEBEL DOOMED!

Good Citizens Are Determined to Preserve the Honor of the State.

## SKETCH OF POLITICAL PIRATE.

The following picture of William Goebel, who was defeated for Governor at the late election, was printed in Harper's Weekly before the election. It was drawn by the gifted Henry Loomis Nelson, a staff correspondent, who was detailed to tour Kentucky in the interests of his publication. To illustrate the manner in which the brazen Kenton boss is regarded outside the state, the article is reproduced in full. It is a true sketch. Goebel and Goebelmism are revealed in all their villainy, and the picture is not overdrawn. Step by step the career of the boss is intelligently traced from his entrance into public life down to the present day. His machine, his infamous election law, his fraudulent nomination for governor and his wobbling, deception and duplicity are all treated with a master hand.

## AS OTHERS SEE HIM.

William Goebel is the expression of modern politics in the most extreme form, and he represents, in his character, his methods and his designs, the next struggle in the Democratic party—the struggle between the sincere and wrong-headed socialists and the moral pervers who have obtained control of a good deal of the party machinery, the struggle between the cranks and the criminals; for Goebel's success in Kentucky and McLean's in Ohio bode no good to Mr. Bryan.

Kentucky has rarely been in such a political ferment as it is in today. William Goebel, not of American parentage, not born in the state, has gained control of the Democratic party, and has obtained the nomination of the convention whose candidates were, a priori, supposed to be sure of election. The revolt against the Republicans was probably sufficient to elect the Democrats on a fair count, but, in addition to the popular reversion to the old party, the Democrats had constructed a machine for controlling the elec-

tions and for counting in the candidates which seemed to make the success of their ticket unavoidable. This machine was Goebel's construction, and Goebel became the candidate of what had been assumed to be the invincible party. But the assumption is not what it was. A serious revolt among the silver Democrats has followed Goebel's nomination, resulting from his method of obtaining it, and there is now no doubt that the first reason for supposing the Democratic candidate invincible no longer exists. He can not be elected on a fair count. He will be defeated by a large majority. The second reason for Democratic confidence is the only hope that remains to Goebel. Will he be able to count himself in? He has the machinery of the law, of which he is the author. Will his creatures of the state board of election commissioners, together with the county and precinct boards, dare the attempt to defraud the popular will? And if they dare, will the good citizens of the state, who are organizing, and who even talk of arming, for the purpose, be able to prevent the consummation of the outrage?

## Goebel and His Machine.

William Goebel is a new product for Kentucky. He is not a native. He is not popular except among the pool-sellers and others of that class, whose lawyer he is. He is not the generous, cordial, open nature which one habitually thinks of as a Kentuckian. He is cold, calculating, prudently selfish. He is bound to rule the state, and he even contemplates higher spheres for his activities. The contrast between him and his Democratic competitor, John Young Brown, is the contrast between a tough and a gentleman, between smartness and ability, between the politics of yesterday and the politics of today in Kentucky. The character of Goebel is illustrated by the killing of John Sandford several years ago in Covington. John Sandford was, for some reason, in Goebel's way. He was a high-spirited man, and his friends say that he was also a man of irascible character. Goebel wrote and secured the publication of an attack upon Sandford, which is variously described as brutal or infamous or indecent, and which was probably intended to lead to a personal encounter. At any rate, Goebel prepared himself for killing. He saw Sandford on the street, which he crossed for the purpose of bringing his victim face to face with him. Over his left arm he carried an overcoat, in the pocket of which was a revolver, evidently cocked, and his right hand grasped it. The two were within a few feet of each other, when Sandford asked Goebel if he was responsible for the article. Goebel said yes, and pulled the revolver from his pocket. Sandford reached behind for his pistol, but before he could bring it forward Goebel shot him in the head, Sandford's weapon being discharged apparently by the convulsive grasp of the dying man. Since then Goebel has not killed any one, but he has seemingly done his utmost to provoke quarrels of a personal nature by his ruthless and usually mendacious attacks upon his political opponents. He has given the lie to almost every prominent and reputable man in the state. He, more than any one else, has deprived Kentucky and the country of the services of Mr. Carlisle—at one time as absolutely impregnable in the affections and admiration of the people of the state as was ever Henry Clay. He will send Senator Lindsay into private life the moment his term expires. He has earned the hostility of every self-respecting Democrat in the state, and he has at his beck and call the conscienceless demagogues—chief of whom is Blackburn—the ruffians, the criminals, the crowd that admires successful crime and fawns upon courageous and successful criminals.

The political methods of this modern tribune are illustrated by his gross deception of Mr. Carlisle in 1896, and by the manner in which he obtained his present nomination. Mr. Carlisle had done much for Goebel when the latter was a young man. He had given him his start in his profession. Common gratitude alone demanded fair treatment for the statesman in Washington from the politician at home. But Goebel has been denouncing Mr. Carlisle, and has invited the confusion which has been visited upon him. He was accused of securing admission to the state convention of 1896 through Mr. Carlisle's influence, and he denounced the accusation as a lie. Upon this Mr. Carlisle found himself reluctantly drawn into the state campaign, and he wrote a letter to the editor of the Louisville Evening Post, narrating the circumstances of Goebel's visit to him in Washington, when he requested Mr. Carlisle's influence on the

ground that he was a single-standard gold advocate, a partisan of Mr. Carlisle, and an opponent of Mr. Blackburn. Although he had voted for Blackburn for senator, he explained that it was because Blackburn was the candidate of the party. He convinced Mr. Carlisle that he was entitled to a seat in the convention, but, being admitted as a delegate, he at once cast his vote for the free-silver candidates for officers of the convention; and voted for the resolution which presented Blackburn as the choice of the Kentucky Democracy for the presidency. Mr. Carlisle had, fortunately, preserved a letter which Goebel had written to him, in which his pretense of being a Gold Democrat was fully set forth. Goebel has tried to explain this letter, but he has failed utterly to make out a case for himself. His own letter is sufficient to convict him. Mr. Carlisle's exposure of his treachery has caused a sensation, as might have been expected, and Senator Bronston, the silver candidate for whom Goebel voted for temporary chairman of the convention at which he betrayed Mr. Carlisle, has announced, since the publication of Mr. Carlisle's letter, that he can not support a man so dishonorable as is Goebel.

## The Nomination For Governor.

It was Goebel's intention to be the Democratic candidate this year—the invincible candidate—when he drew and secured the enactment of the Goebel law to establish fraud under the protection of the law of the state. The state convention met at Louisville on the 21st of June. At the precinct primaries and county conventions Goebel made strenuous efforts to secure delegates who would favor his nomination in the state convention. He sometimes resorted to fraud, and sometimes to violence; but he was in a minority when the state convention met. Then came an opportunity for a display of Goebelmism, of which he abundantly took advantage. He is as ready to break faith as to hold office, and he had his chance. He never hesitates to defraud the voters, and again he had his chance. There were two other candidates before the convention. Of these three candidates Hardin had 529½ votes, Stone 334 and Goebel only 167 votes, so that more than 900 of the delegates chosen were against Goebel. Then this master of chicanery began to play his tricks with candidate Stone. He united with him to defeat Hardin's candidate for the temporary chairmanship of the convention, and Judge Redwine, a friend of Goebel, was elected. He had promised Stone to make him the candidate for governor, and he repeated the promise in order to secure Stone's assent that the temporary organization should be made permanent. Having accomplished this purpose, he secured the appointment of a committee on credentials, which not only decided the contested election cases against Hardin, but which invented contests where none existed, until finally Goebel had obtained a majority of the delegates and had secured the nomination, Stone having been dropped out of the contest by some further cunning and dishonorable manipulation of this extraordinary rascal; 225 votes were stolen from Hardin, and 169 secured from Stone. Thus was Goebel nominated, and the methods which he pursued, and by means of which he succeeded, mark him as one of the most brilliant and hardest political bandits of his time. He has hesitated at nothing, and has been so bold in his villainy as to have actually wrought up the best citizens of the commonwealth to such mental and nervous condition that it requires only a step more to cause the shotgun state of mind to prevail in all of Kentucky that does not justify the employment of fraud and violence in elections.

## The Goebel Law.

The Goebel law is intended to trench Goebel in the law of the state. It is on the canvassing and county machinery constructed by this famous statute that Goebel depends for election in the absence of votes. This law is an interesting incident in the progress of machine-building which is going on throughout the country. The machine violates the law or evades it when it wants to cheat. If in New York, for example, dishonest election officers are appointed for the purpose of doing dishonorable work, they are chosen in violation of the intent of the law, if not of its letter. It is true also that under the Goebel law the result expected, if fraud is essential, will also be produced in violation of the criminal law, and the offenders may be prosecuted before the criminal courts, and on conviction punished. But in no state in the Union other than Kentucky is the machinery of elections turned over to the control of the men who want to cheat if cheating be necessary. The people elsewhere have

the choosing of the election officers, but in Kentucky the people have nothing whatever to say on the subject, except through their votes for future legislatures. In other states dishonest officers are put into place, as other dishonest men are put into other offices, by the votes of the people, who therefore have an opportunity to elect them when their true characters shall be revealed. In Kentucky Goebel has made his machine part of the administrative government of the state. He has put his creatures into office by an act of the legislature, so that his machine is not a private corporation even in name, like Croker's, but an avowedly public corporation receiving pay from the state for doing Goebel's work. This may resemble Croker's machine, in fact, and at least it is a frank expression of the creed of the criminal in politics—that the offices and revenues of the government belong to those who can get them by hook or crook. Goebel has taken the plain, blunt course. Croker uses judges and other officeholders, who are paid to do the work of the state in the city, as his vassals and servants; Goebel has a board of commissioners frankly chosen to count in the Democratic candidates.

Home rule and Democratic principles are frankly abandoned, and the officers who receive and count the votes, with the exception of the inspectors who represent the different parties, are appointed by the powers at Frankfort. The law provides for the election by the legislature of three state commissioners, who hold office for four years. These commissioners appoint the county board of election commissioners, who in turn appoint the election officers of the different precincts. The Republican party is supposed to be represented on the precinct boards, but this has long been the law or the custom in Kentucky, and the methods of evading it are well known. Republicans are appointed, for example, who are traveling in Europe, or who are physically or mentally unfit for service, or who live at a great distance from the polls. Then the others select some one to fill the anticipated vacancy, and this year that some one will be a Goebel Democrat or a compliant Republican. At any moment, and with or without cause, the state board may remove any member of a county board, or the whole of the board, appointing successors, and the county board may do the same with the precinct officers. This gives the state board absolute control of the machinery, and even after the votes are cast the state board may remove election officers who threaten to be recalcitrant, and may turn over the ballot-boxes to men who will count in accordance with the necessities of the party. It is quite possible that all the local election officers of the state may be changed on the eve of election day.

The decision of the board of canvassers is final; no appeal lies to any authority, no review can be ordered. If a contest is made, it is to be tried before the men who counted the vote and whose decision is questioned. Another great power given to the machine consists in the provision that if the canvassing board does not make its returns within 10 days, the vote of the precinct or the county may be thrown out. Suppose, for example, that Taylor, the Republican candidate for governor, should carry the city of Louisville by a majority of 10,000, and that the rest of the state should go for Goebel by a majority of 5,000; it lies in the power of the Goebel election officers to defeat the will of the state by simply failing to return the Louisville vote.

The election officers are expected to be willing and ready to commit any fraud that may be necessary to satisfy the exigencies of the Goebel ticket. The head of the state board is Judge Pryor, once chief justice of the state. He was held in high esteem. It is a curious trait of some bad men that they dislike to see a good man fall. When Judge Pryor was named for the first place on the commission, a man of ability, but thoroughly corrupt, went to him and told him that the law was intended to give the Democrats an opportunity to steal the state, and that a man of his (Pryor's) character should not take a place on the board. "It's different with me, Judge," said the frank and cynical friend. "I believe in stealing the state if we can't get it any other way, but you ought not to be dragged in."

Pryor then authorized this man to forbid the use of his name in the legislature, but before the day for the voting Goebel had urged him to stand, and he consented. Now he seems ready to do anything that Goebel requires of him, and although he is a judge of last resort in any contest that may arise from the election, he is on the stump eulogizing Goebel and abusing his op-

ponents. The correspondence between South Trimble and W. E. Thompson of a year ago last August is still fresh in the public mind. Trimble warned Thompson, who had been appointed an election commissioner, that dirty work was expected of him, and advised him to decline the appointment, saying that Judge Pryor would appoint any one who might be designated if he (Thompson) would create the vacancy. Thompson complied, and Judge Pryor I am told carried out his part of the contract. The other day The Evening Post of Louisville published a letter signed by Allie W. Young, chairman of Goebel's state committee. It was addressed to an election commissioner and urged him to hurry his pollbook to the central committee. Allie said that when the committee had received the pollbooks "the most important gun of the campaign will have been fired." He concluded his letter by saying: "We will then know just where we are, what is necessary to be done, and expect, with your assistance, to do it." In other words, the pollbook will show the number of votes necessary to enable to carry the state, and the election commissioners are expected to see that the required number of ballots are in the box.

This explains sufficiently the manner in which Goebel expects to carry the state of Kentucky and to be elected its governor. It seems as though he had the game in his own hands. In the language of the eminent Mr. Cox of Cincinnati, "How can you beat a man who's got the nomination in one hand and the ballot-box in the other?" But the good citizens of Kentucky intend to do their utmost to save the state from the disgrace of Goebel and the shame of his law. In Louisville an Honest Election league has been formed. It is composed of men of all parties. The rest of the state is expected to follow the example of the city, and it is the intention of these good citizens to have a fair count even if a resort to violence is necessary to secure it. Great care is being taken by the opponents of Goebel in the selection of inspectors. There are five inspectors permissible at each poll, for there are five tickets in the field. All of the four opponents of the Democratic ticket are against Goebel especially. The break in the Democratic

party is not on the old lines between silver and gold Democrats. The break is in the silver faction. The rebels against the regular ticket are silver men. The gold Democrats are not taking a prominent part in the campaign. They will vote as they please—some for Taylor and some for Brown—but the contest is being urged by silver Democrats who are trying to prevent the success of fraud. The election has positively no national significance whatever. The contest is one of good citizens against a corrupt "boss," who has not built up the machine as the east understands such a mechanism, but who is seeking to make the election officers of the state his machine and to make fraud legal. No more important struggle against corrupt government and the ascendancy of the criminal in politics is going on in the country.

## Goebel and National Politics.

Although I have said that the campaign has no national significance that statement must be qualified in one respect. Goebel has a deep significance for Democrats. He represents a force, which is rising in the party, which has no use for Bryan or his principles, which is greatly interested in securing the control of the party for the bosses who, like Goebel, Croker, McLean and Gorman, have no use for principles that interfere with their ambition or their greed. The rise and strength of Goebel are, for the moment, driving together the honest gold and silver Democrats. Silver as an issue is dying out in this part of the country. If Goebel and McLean succeed, Bryan must look to his position. He is not the kind of man whom the bosses prefer. They would rather have Gorman or McLean, or even Goebel himself.

## Chamberlain's Pain Balm Cures Others, Why Not You?

My wife has been using Chamberlain's Pain Balm, with good results, for a lame shoulder that has pained her continually for nine years. We have tried all kinds of medicines and doctors without receiving any benefit from any of them. One day we saw an advertisement of this medicine and thought of trying it, which we did with the best of satisfaction. She has used only one bottle and her shoulder is almost well.

ADOLPH L. MILETT.

Manchester, N. H.

For sale by J. Jas. Wood & Son, Druggists.

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Reason for it, our buyer overreached himself while East a few months ago. All-wool Fancy Dress Goods, 38 inches wide, 11c., worth 30c.; Black All-wool Fancies 20c., worth 30c.; All-wool very finest Figured Henriettas and Jacquards, suitable for skirts, ten styles to pick from, sold everywhere at 75c., our price 45c.; elegant Creponnes, worth \$1.50, our price 75c.; fine Black Serges, Henriettas, less than original cost.

OUR JACKET AND CAPE BUSINESS has been immense. New goods received daily by express. See our elegant Cover Jacket \$3.00, worth \$7. Our Plush Cape at \$1.98 is a beauty. \$10.00 Jackets now \$7.50. All our Furs reduced; they got to go. Don't buy a Jacket, Cape or Collar before seeing ours. Money in your pocket by doing so.

## HAYS &amp; CO

P. S.—A few dozen Boys' Reefers, regular price \$4.50; our price \$2.25. Shoes cheaper than ever. Rag Carpets 10c., worth 25c.

## EVERYBODY KNOWS IT!

The following advice is earnestly presented by the undersigned as a simple truth, and while our correspondent mentions only a few articles that we handle, we guarantee that all our goods will fully sustain the reputation that has been given our house by the citizens of Mason and adjoining counties for the past twenty-five years. A careful perusal of the following is requested:

Flemingsburg, Ky., Nov. 15.—It has been here as elsewhere the object of every one keeping house or engaged in any business to ascertain where the best bargains are to be had. After thorough investigation, for fine Pearl, Tortoise, Ivory and Buck-Handle Pocket Knives, Pearl, Ivory and Plated Table Knives and Forks, Carver Sets, Plated Spoons, Forks and Triple-Plate Knives, Scissors and Shears, there is no city that can offer better inducements, as to prices and styles, over Frank Owens Hardware Company of Maysville, Ky.

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